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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/521,655	01/14/2005	Jonathon Reo Campian	000061242-08us	2171

7590 02/28/2006

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EXAMINER

LARSON, LOWELL A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3725

DATE MAILED: 02/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/521,655

Applicant(s)

CAMPIAN, JONATHON REO

Examiner

Lowell A. Larson

Art Unit

3725

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 to 22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 to 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 January 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/20/2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 to 5, 8 to 12, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sawa in view of Massee.

Sawa discloses a robotic roller hemming arrangement such as that of the invention. The roller can be pressed by a force-sensitive servo control.

Massee discloses a roller forming arrangement in which the roller is pressed by a memorized position/pressure control. Massee advises that such a system eliminates instability encountered with force-sensitive servo systems due to variations in thickness of the material or eccentricity of the roller.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to employ position/pressure control of the hemming roller in Sawa, following the suggestion of Massee, rather than force/servo control in order to avoid instability due to material thickness tolerance variations.

Massee also suggests that the roller can be biased by either spring means, as required by Claim 4, or fluid means, as required by Claim 5.

3. Claims 6, 7, 13 to 16 and 19 to 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sawa in view of Massee as applied to Claim 1 above, and further in view of Persson.

These claims require the hemming tool to include a main roller and a touch-up roller. Persson shows such hemming tools to be well known in the art. See rollers 4 in Figure 1. It would have been further obvious to provide a main roller and a touch-up roller in the Sawa hemming tool, following the suggestion of Persson, in order to facilitate pressing various work shapes. Utilizing industry-standard tool sockets, as recited in Claims 15 and 16, and finding optimum rolling schedules for any particular work configuration, as recited in Claims 19 to 21, would be obvious expedients to one skilled in the art, and not patentable distinctions absent a disclosure of criticality in the solution of stated problems with the use of any specific combination of rolls and work configuration.

4. Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sawa in view of Massee as applied to Claim 17 above, and further in view of Polon.

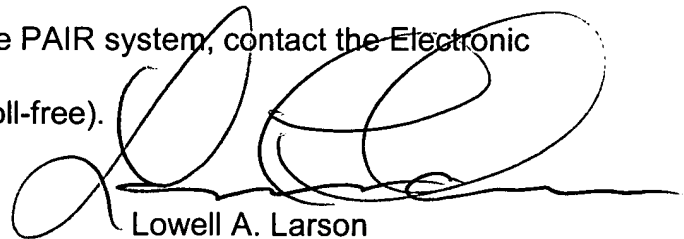
This claim requires application of an adhesive prior to hemming. Polon discloses adhesive application to be customary in hemming metal sheets. See column 4, lines 34 to 37. It would have been further obvious to apply an adhesive to the seam in Sawa prior to folding the hem, following the suggestion of Polon, in order to enhance the integrity of the folded seam.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lowell A. Larson whose telephone number is (571) 272-4519. The examiner can normally be reached from M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Banks Derris can be reached at (571) 272-4419. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lowell A. Larson', is written over a horizontal line.

Lowell A. Larson
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3725

LAL
February 22, 2006